



County Borough of Burton upon Trent

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

FOR THE YEAR 1939

BY

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M.D., D.P.H.

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

INDEX

	Page
Arrangements for Treatment	11
Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children	20
Children's Care Committee	21
Co-operation of Parents	19
Co-operation of School Attendance Officers	20
Co-operation of Teachers	20
Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies	20
Co-ordination	5
Crippling Defects and Orthopaedics	10
Dental Defects	9 & 14
Diphtheria Immunisation	17
Ear Disease and Hearing	9 & 13
Employment of School Children	23
Exclusions from School	11
External Eye Diseases	9
Heart Disease and Rheumatism	9 & 15
Height and Weight Tables	7
Following up	11
Findings of Medical Inspection	8
Infectious Diseases	16
Malnutrition	8 & 11
Medical Inspection	6
Minor Ailments	8 & 12
Nose and Throat	9 & 13
Nursery Schools	23
Open-air Education	17
Orthopaedic and Postural Defects	9 & 14
Physical Training	17
Provision of Meals	19
School Hygiene	6
Secondary Schools	23
Speech Training	18
Staff	4
Tables—Elementary Schools	25
Tables—Secondary Schools	30
Tuberculosis	10 & 15
Uncleanliness	8 & 12
Vision	9 & 12
Vaccination	17

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Return of Defects treated during the year ended
the 31st December, 1939

Defective Vision and Squint

	Number of defects dealt with		
	Under Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint)	24	3	27
Number of children for whom spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed	20	3	23
(b) Obtained	19	3	22

Dental Treatment, 1939

1942

HIGH SCHOOL

Number of cases treated ..	.. 11	.. 11	3	11
Number of attendances ..	.. 19	.. 42	5	23

GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Number of cases treated ..	.. 12	.. 12	2	10
Number of attendances ..	.. 27	.. 10	4	22
Fillings—Permanent Teeth	.. 6	.. 6	5	33
Temporary Teeth	..	..	—	—
Extractions—Permanent Teeth	.. 2	.. 2	5	13
Temporary Teeth	.. 7	.. 7	1	513
Number of cases in which general anaesthetics were given for extractions ..	..	.. 3	2	5
Other operations—Permanent Teeth	..	..	—	9
Temporary Teeth	..	.. 5	—	—

Local

SECONDARY SCHOOLS .

Medical Inspection Returns

Table 2

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1939

DEFECT OR DISEASE	Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
	No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment
SKIN DISEASE	—	—	—	—
EYE {	Blepharitis	—	1	—
	Other conditions excluding vision and squint ..	—	—	—
	Defective vision excluding Squint	27	23	—
	Squint	—	1	—
EAR Otitis Media	—	1	—	—
Tonsils	—	21	—	1
Enlarged cervical glands (Non-Tuberculous)	—	16	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—
HEART {	Organic	—	—	—
	Functional	—	7	—
Rheumatism	—	—	—	—
Defective Speech	—	—	—	—
Defective Teeth	42	11	—	—
DEFORMITIES				
Spinal curvature	—	—	—	—
Other forms	2	15	—	—
Other defects, excluding defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases	7	19	—	—
Totals	78	114	1	1

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

TABLE 1

Return of Medical Inspections for year ended
the 31st December, 1939

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age	{	Under 9 years	..	34
		9	„	11
		10	„	19
		11	„	50
		12	„	107
		13	„	114
		14	„	107
		15	„	72
		16	„	54
		17	„	16
		18	„	8
		19	„	1
				<hr/>
				593
				<hr/>

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of special inspections	..	..	2
Number of re-inspections	..	..	360
			<hr/>
			362
			<hr/>

C.—INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN

Found to require treatment	..	..	33
(excluding uncleanliness and dental diseases)			

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

TABLE III

Return of all Blind and Deaf Children in the Area
December 31st, 1939

BLIND CHILDREN

A blind child is a child who is too blind to be able to read the ordinary school books used by children

At Certified Schools for the Blind	At Public Elementary Schools	At Other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
—	—	1	1	2

DEAF CHILDREN

A deaf child is a child who is too deaf to be taught in a class of hearing children in an elementary school

At Certified Schools for the Deaf	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
—	—	2	—	2

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Table V.—Dental Inspection and Treatment

(1). Number of children inspected by the Dentist.

(a) Routine age-groups.

AGE	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	TOTAL	
Number	124	474	447	555	578	464	531	467	429	407	229	26	4,731	5588
(b) Specials													249	250
(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials)													4,980	6135
(2) Number found to require treatment													3,139	3200
(3) Number actually treated													1,513	1510
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment													3,091	3420
(5) Half-days devoted to :—														
Inspection					31	35							278	339
Treatment					454	63							1,804	2206
Total					485	98							2,082	2545
(7) Extractions :—														
Permanent Teeth													278	339
Temporary Teeth													1,804	2206
Total													2,082	2545
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions													428	557
(6) Fillings :—														
Permanent Teeth					1,388	144							653	563
Temporary Teeth					225	220							97	160
Total					1,613	364							750	1023
(9) Other Operations :—														
Permanent Teeth													653	563
Temporary Teeth													97	160
Total													750	1023

Table VI.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(i) Average number of visits per School made during the year by the School Nurses	12
(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	16,730
(iii) Number of <i>individual</i> children found unclean	410
(iv) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	Nil
(v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	Nil
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	Nil
(vi) Number of Children cleansed under a Voluntary Scheme	114

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat

Number of Defects.												
Received Operative Treatment.											Received other Forms of Treatment	Total number treated
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital				By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Author- ity's Scheme				Total				
Tonsils only	Adenoids only	Tonsils & Adenoids	Other Defects	Tonsils only	Adenoids only	Tonsils & Adenoids	Other Defects	Tonsils only	Adenoids only	Tonsils & Adenoids	Other Defects	
—	—	—	—	—	2	84	—	—	2	84	—	
											—	86

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

	Under the Authority's Scheme			Otherwise			Total number treated
	Residential treatment with education	Residential treatment without education	Non-residential treat- ment at an orthopaedic clinic	Residential treatment with education	Residential treatment without education	Non-residential treat- ment at an orthopaedic clinic	
Number of chil- dren treated	7	1	67	—	—	—	75

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

TABLE IV
TREATMENT TABLESGroup I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness,
for which see Table VI)

Disease or Defect	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
Skin :—			
Ringworm—Scalp (i) X-Ray treat- ment	—	—	—
(ii) Other treat- ment	—	—	—
Ringworm—Body	7	—	7
Scabies	23	—	23
Impetigo	81	4	85
Other Skin Disease	67	—	67
Minor Eye Defects	131	10	141
(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II) .. .			
Minor Ear Defects	44	—	44
Miscellaneous (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	311	16	327
Total	664	30	694

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye
Defects Treated as Minor Ailments.—Group I)

	No. of Defects dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint)	304	2	306
Other defect or disease of the eyes (ex- cluding those recorded in Group I.) ..	—	—	—
Total	304	2	306
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
No. of Children for whom spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed	249	2	251
(b) Obtained	234	2	236

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

TABLE I
RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Year ended 31st December, 1939

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed groups :—

Entrants	549
Second age group	690
Third age group	701
Total	1,940

Number of other Routine Inspections —

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections 8,167

TABLE II

B.—Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the year in the Routine Age Groups up to the 31st August, 1939

Age-groups	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Second Age-group	690	131	19.0	494	71.6	60	8.7	5	0.7
Third Age-group ..	701	164	23.4	480	68.5	50	7.1	7	1.0
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	1391	295	21.2	974	70.0	110	7.9	12	0.9

18. **Student Teachers.** During 1939 four student teachers were examined in connection with their fitness to pursue the vocation of teachers.

19. Dr. T. Ross, Assistant School Medical Officer, has been responsible for the preparation of this Report, and his assistance in this respect is hereby acknowledged.

J. M. COWIE,

School Medical Officer.

14. Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children. There are three blind children in the Borough, one of whom is at no school or institution, whilst the other two, together with three partially-blind children, are in the Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind. Six partially-sighted children attended ordinary elementary schools, a special curriculum being provided for five of them.

The situation remained as for the previous year in respect of deaf and partially deaf children, that is, there were two deaf and one partially deaf children attending certified schools for the deaf, and one partially deaf child attending an ordinary elementary school.

One epileptic child attended a certified residential school for epileptics during the year.

There were ten children examined during the year with reference to their mental condition and two of these were found to be feeble-minded and one imbecile. The remainder were classified as dull.

15. Nursery Schools. A Nursery Class for children aged 3 to 5 years was arranged at the re-modelled Short Street School and was in operation as from August, 1939.

16. Secondary Schools.

(a) Medical Inspections were carried out along the lines indicated in previous reports. At the end of this report is a table showing a detailed return of defects found at routine inspections.

(b) Medical Treatment. There was no change in the treatment available in previous years.

17. Employment of School Children. The following table indicates the number of children examined and passed fit for several kinds of employment within prescribed limits during 1939 :—

	Boys	Girls	Total
Newspaper delivery	149	2	151
Errands	56	1	57
Domestic Duties	—	1	1
Milk Delivery	6	1	7
	—	—	—
	211	5	216
	—	—	—

Two cases were provided with surgical boots.

One child supplied with medical necessities.

Thirteen children were recommended to be sent to Convalescent Homes or provided with treatment, but for various reasons the necessary arrangements had to be cancelled.

The Mayoress' Needlework Guild gave clothing for children going to Convalescent Homes, and this assistance was very helpful.

The Voluntary Aid Association investigated cases where Railway fares were required and granted the fares, and their co-operation and help is gratefully acknowledged.

The Feoffees gave a grant of £35 with a further £5 if required. As the work was restricted at the beginning of the war, the £5 was not asked for. They also provided 72 tickets for the Rhyl and Southport Convalescent Homes.

The Committee appreciate and acknowledge this generous help.

J. M. SLATOR,

Chairman.

PHYLLIS M. EVERSLED,

Hon. Secretary.

10th January, 1940.

CHILDREN'S CARE COMMITTEE

Report for the year 1939

The Children's Care Committee was re-appointed by the Education Committee in November, 1938, and was constituted as follows :—

Mrs. Curzon, Miss Evershed, Mrs. Griffiths, Mrs. Piddocke, Mrs. Rowland, Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Slator, Mrs. Templeman, Mrs. Walley and Mrs. Williams.

The Officers were elected for 1939, viz. :—

Chairman—Mrs. Slator.

Vice-Chairman—Mrs. Sanders.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—Miss Evershed.

Mrs. F. J. Thompson was elected a member of the Committee on the 2nd January, 1939.

On the 2nd April, 1939, the Committee suffered a great loss by the death of Mrs. Sanders, who had served for many years, and had done most valuable work.

Mrs. Williams was taken ill in May. The Members hope for her restoration to health and for her assistance again in the work.

Owing to the outbreak of war in September, the work which could be done was restricted in the first few weeks, but after that was able to carry on.

103 cases were reported to the Committee during the year and were dealt with as follows :—

83 children were sent to Convalescent Homes at Rhyl, Southport and Bournemouth.

22 of these cases were sent by the "Burton Observer" Uncle Jack Fund.

Four sent to Birmingham Hospitals.

PERCENTAGE OF PARENTS PRESENT AT ROUTINE INSPECTION, 1939

School	Infants	Intermediates		Leavers		Total
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Bond Street ..	80.0	66.6	100	—	—	76.6
Broadway ..	69.0	53.3	23	8.5	6.9	36.5
Christ Church ..	78.7	39.3	40.9	—	—	53.0
Goodman St. and Stafford Street ..	79.0	62.5	61.4	—	5.8	38.3
Grange Street ..	75.4	48.1	54.3	—	—	65.0
Guild Street ..	—	—	—	2.9	33.3	19.7
Holy Trinity ..	69.2	26.6	26.6	—	—	39.5
Horninglow ..	77.2	25.5	13.9	—	—	31.8
Shobnall ..	66.0	40.0	86.6	—	—	67.3
Stapenhill St. Peter's	61.3	47.1	57.8	14.2	11.2	40.8
Stapenhill Short St.	57.1	—	53.8	—	—	54.9
St. Modwens' ..	50.0	12.5	45.3	—	—	27.7
Uxbridge Street ..	83.7	16.6	64.5	—	—	59.6
Victoria Road ..	84.2	16.6	33.3	5.2	—	26.9
Wetmore Road ..	68.7	50.0	44.4	—	—	57.5
Winshill ..	63.9	58.6	58.3	18.1	12.8	41.7
Clarence Street ..	—	—	—	4.5	16.05	10.5
<hr/>						
Total percentage of Infants ..		..	..	..	..	68.6
Total percentage of Intermediates ..		..	..	..	..	45.7
Total percentage of Leavers ..		..	..	..	..	18.4
Total percentage ..						<u>39.6</u>

(b) **Co-operation of Teachers.** We repeat our thanks of previous years to the teachers for the continuous smooth running of the medical inspections so far as it affects them, and the ready provision of information when required.

(c) **Co-operation of School Attendance Officers.** These officers have again performed the useful function of a link between the homes of children suffering from non-notifiable infectious diseases and the School Medical Service.

(d) **Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.** The Voluntary Aid Association has again given unstinted help to necessitous cases amongst the children of the Borough especially in providing railway fares to Convalescent Homes.

The Children's Care Committee and the "Burton Observer" Uncle Jack's Fund again enabled many children during the year to have holidays following illness or suffering from debility from any other cause.

A report of the work of the Children's Care Committee is appended.

DEFECTIVE ARTICULATION

Number	Result			
	Cured	Improved	Slight Improvement	Unchanged
18	3	10	2	3 (1 ? M.D.) (2—three lessons only)

CLEFT PALATE

Number	Result			
	Cured	Improved	Slight Improvement	Unchanged
3	—	1	1	1

Total number of cases treated, 32.

12. **Provision of Meals.** No meals are provided in school. The following particulars indicate the scope of the scheme for providing cheap milk in schools, and of free milk when the family income falls below a prescribed limit.

Number of individual children supplied with free milk	420
Average number of children supplied with milk at a special price	2,675
Number of one-third pint bottles supplied free	94,026
Number of one-third pint bottles supplied on payment	423,241

13. (a) **Co-operation of Parents.** The co-operation of parents continued as in previous years, but the failure to attend routine examinations of leavers by the majority is still evident.

"For several years physical training has formed a most important part of Elementary School education. A school needs a hall and a playground of satisfactory size for the full development of the training. Unfortunately, many Burton Schools are without halls, and in some cases the playgrounds are exceedingly small. Measures to remedy this state of affairs were being taken this year when the outbreak of war not only stopped progress in this direction but even caused the clock to be set back in as much as some schools were taken over as First Aid Posts, and in many others small playgrounds were rendered yet smaller by the necessary construction of air raid shelters. Wherever space made its use possible portable physical training apparatus was supplied to schools, and the Committee passed a resolution whereby shoes might be supplied to schools together with material from which garments for use in physical training might be made by the children in the schools."

11. **Speech Training.** During the year it was decided to establish experimental Speech-training Classes for those children suffering from stammering and defective articulation, and for a few cases of cleft palate who had had surgical treatment. The results shown in the tables below are decidedly encouraging and justify continuing the classes for a further period. The cases were selected for treatment as a result of routine and special examinations. The training has been carried out by Miss M. E. Coleman, A.L.A.M., whose enthusiasm and hard work has contributed so largely to the success of the experiment.

The response of parents is also encouraging despite the comparative slowness of progress and frequent attendances necessary and many have expressed thanks for the improvement made.

STAMMERING

Degree			Result			
Slight	Considerable	Severe	Cured	Much improved occasional difficulty when excited	Improved	Unchanged
5	2	4	5	4	1	1

The notable fall in the incidence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria is interesting but that level is unlikely to be maintained. Measles was the most important single infectious disease affecting children during 1939, followed by whooping cough as a poor second.

Requests for immunisation against Diphtheria totalled 46.

VACCINATION TABLE, 1939

Age Period.	Unvaccinated per cent.	Vaccinated per cent.	
		Under 4 Marks	4 or more Marks
Entrants ..	86.1	13.8	0.1
Intermediates	83.3	16.1	0.6
Leavers ..	71.9	21.4	6.7

9. **Open Air Education.** There is no change to report in this direction.

10. **Physical Training.** The following is an excerpt from a report of the Education Committee :—

“During the year 1939, the Burton upon Trent Education Committee took some important steps to ensure the progress of physical education within the Borough. Perhaps the most important step has been the appointment of Mr. J. W. Parkinson as full-time organiser of boys’ and men’s physical education and of Mrs. E. M. Harper as part-time organiser of girls’ and women’s physical education. These two officers bring to their work an enthusiasm, ability and experience which will help all engaged in the physical education of children and adults to secure the finest results in good health and in abundant living.

“Before the close of the last swimming season, the Committee decided to pay the entrance fee to the baths for all Elementary School children taking swimming under proper instruction. During the coming year the swimming lessons will form part of the normal school curriculum and will take place during school hours at no cost to child or parent.

8. Infectious Diseases. A table of the common infectious diseases and their distribution throughout the schools is presented below :—

SCHOOLS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SCHOOL	Whoop- ing Cough	Chicken Pox	German Measles and Measles	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Mumps
Clarence Street	1	1	2	3	0	1
Winshill	2	9	23	4	0	0
Horninglow	2	1	28	18	1	6
Broadway	21	10	3	3	2	2
Mission Room, Stapenhill ..	7	5	39	4	3	1
Victoria Road	12	3	47	3	1	0
Grange Street	8	1	99	7	2	1
Holy Trinity	12	1	9	1	1	0
Christ Church	5	0	34	4	2	1
Shobnall Road	0	0	1	1	0	0
Hill Street and St. Peter's Street	9	2	12	16	1	0
Guild Street	0	0	3	0	0	3
Wetmore Road	0	23	2	2	0	1
Uxbridge Street	15	28	32	2	2	4
St. Modwen's	5	0	1	0	0	1
Goodman St. and Stafford St. ..	13	0	13	4	1	22
High Schools (Girls)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grammar School	0	0	0	0	0	0
No School	70	3	62	43	19	1
Private School	7	0	0	2	1	0
Bond Street	3	0	5	0	0	0
Totals	192	87	415	117	36	44

		Number of new cases	Total number of attendances
Health Committee	.. ..	2	39
Maternity and Child Welfare Committee	.. ..	17	140
Education Committee	..	21	2,062

Hospital Treatment for these types of cases is carried out where necessary by the Warwickshire Orthopaedic Hospital for Children at Coleshill, and at Bretby Hall. Two new cases were sent during the year to Coleshill.

(i) **Heart Disease and Rheumatism.** There is no special provision made for this type of case beyond the close supervision of activities in School and the advice given to parents about the care necessary to limit damage to poorly compensated hearts.

(j) **Tuberculosis.** Three children were admitted to Outwoods Sanatorium during the year through the Tuberculosis Service.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	.. ..	2
Abdominal Tuberculosis	.. ..	1

One case of Tuberculosis of the spine was sent to Bretby Hall Orthopaedic Hospital during the year.

(f) **Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.** The following tables indicate the treatment carried out for ear defects:—

Number of ear examinations					674
1.	Minor conditions—				
	Wax Impaction	..	..	..	18
	Defective hearing	..	..	..	5
	Furunculosis	..	..	..	2
	Foreign bodies	..	..	..	—
	Catarrh of Middle Ear	..	..	..	7
	Otalgia	..	..	..	8
					—
					40
					==
2.	Otorrhoea. Result of treatment—				
(a)	Routine treatment.				
	Ears dry	..	..	..	18
	Improved but still attending	..	..	..	—
	Ceased attending	..	..	..	2
	Transferred to own Doctor	..	..	..	—
	Transferred to Infirmary	..	..	..	2
					—
					22
					==
(b)	Special Treatment (Zinc Ionisation).				
	Cured	..	..	..	1
	Transferred for operation	..	..	..	1
	Relapsed after treatment	..	..	..	1
					—
					3
					==

(g) **Dental Defects.** Of 3,139 children found to require treatment 1,513 actually received treatment during 3,091 visits.

(h) **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.** This work was carried out as in previous years at the Orthopaedic Clinic, Cross Street, under the direction of Dr. J. H. Moir, assisted by Miss M. J. W. Abbotts. Cases were seen on the first Friday of each month by Dr. Moir. The following table shows the cases dealt with during the year.

TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION, 1939

Total number of children attending Refraction Clinics	..	..	..	..	*306
Total number of attendances	..	..	..	..	796
Number prescribed glasses	..	..	..	..	†249
Number referred to Infirmary	..	..	..	..	1
Number found not to require glasses	..	..	..	..	25
Present glasses suitable	..	..	..	..	13
Refused treatment	..	..	..	..	1

* Includes 20 secondary school children.

† Includes 20 secondary school children.

ANALYSES OF FINDINGS.

Hypermetropia	..	..	..	..	129
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	..	..	..	..	201
Myopia	..	..	..	..	52
Myopic Astigmatism	..	..	..	..	62
Mixed Astigmatism	..	..	..	..	17
Squint and Hypermetropia	..	..	..	..	56
Squint and Hypermetropic Astigmatism	..	..	..	..	13
Squint and Myopia	..	..	..	..	7
Emmetropia	..	..	..	..	22

For the purposes of the analyses each eye has been taken into consideration separately.

There were two cases of marked Anisometropia.

Three cases of High Myopia were recommended for a special curriculum. One Cataract was found.

(e) **Nose and Throat Defects.** The Local Education Authority has no special scheme for the treatment of diseased tonsils and adenoids, but such treatment is readily available at the Local General Hospital, and through the courtesy of the Infirmary Staff, we are provided with the information that 86 operations upon school children for diseased tonsils and adenoids were performed during 1939.

(b) **Uncleanliness.** An important step was taken during the year to deal with uncleanliness of heads, by setting up a cleansing station at the School Clinic. The object of this cleansing station was to clean up rapidly the heads of children who were in the care, either of those incapable of doing this at home or those who have been quite unmoved by prosecution in the past. Formerly, the procedure was to exclude the child on finding nits or vermin and to require the parent to present the child cleansed at the School Clinic before re-admission to School. Failure to cleanse the head resulted, after due warning by the Education Committee, in the prosecution of the parents for the non-attendance of the child at School. This procedure is clumsy, and, what is more important, ineffective, inasmuch as the absence of the child is prolonged, and even after conviction the head is often still dirty. It must be stressed that it is still the duty of the parent or guardian to keep a child clean, and the cleansing station is by no means intended for universal application. Experience does suggest, however, that a proportion of persistently offending parents are incapable of co-operating in the effort for cleanliness in Schools, and it is the children of these parents who can be most expeditiously dealt with at a cleansing station. The station operated on a purely voluntary basis but little difficulty was experienced in persuading parents of its value. 114 cases were dealt with during the year at the cleansing station out of a total of 410 found unclean. In almost every case the children cleansed were able to return to School on the following day. Exclusions for uncleanliness fell from 786 in 1938 to 445 in 1939.

There have been no prosecutions for uncleanliness since setting up the cleansing station.

(c) **Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.** No change in the arrangements for treatment of these conditions was made during 1939. Table IV—Group (i) at the end of this report sets forth the work done in this connection.

These treatments, together with head examinations, necessitated 8,213 attendances at the School Clinic.

(d) **Treatment of Defective Vision.** The following is a tabulated account of the work done by the School Ophthalmologist:—

Exclusions from School					No. of exclusions
Uncleanliness	..	..	..	..	445
Skin Diseases—Impetigo and Sores	..	..	..	..	83
Scabies	..	..	..	..	24
Ringworm : Scalp	..	..	..	..	—
Body	..	..	..	..	1
Herpes	..	..	..	..	8
Miscellaneous Dermatitis	..	..	..	..	8
Ear Diseases—Otorrhoea	..	..	..	..	1
Furunculosis	..	..	..	..	1
Eye Diseases—Conjunctivitis	..	..	..	..	15
Blepharitis and Hordeola	..	..	..	..	14
Myopia	..	..	..	..	—
Throat—Tonsillitis and Sore Throat	..	..	..	..	21
Enlarged Glands	..	..	..	..	4
Other Diseases—Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	1
Rheumatism and Chorea	..	..	..	..	2
Epilepsy	..	..	..	..	1
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	65
Total					694

6. Following up.

This procedure was carried out as in previous years with the usual profitable results in most instances. 221 visits were made during the year by the School Nurses to the homes of School Children.

The School Nurses made 133 visits during the year to homes of School Children in this connection and 29 for other purposes.

7. Arrangements for Treatment.

(a) **Malnutrition.** There was no change during 1939 to the factors contributing to malnutrition, poor environmental conditions preventing the best use of such food as was available in many instances.

Children suffering from Heart or Rheumatic Diseases

	Males	Females	Total
Congenital heart disease	2	3	5
Acquired heart disease—			
(1) With no antecedent rheumatism ..	6	2	8
(2) Following Chorea	0	4	4
(3) Following sub-acute or Chronic Rheumatism	6	9	15
(4) Following Rheumatic Fever	2	4	6
(5) Following Rheumatism and Chorea ..	1	0	1
No sign of Heart Disease but,			
(1) History of Chorea	3	6	9
(2) History of Rheumatic Fever	2	3	5
(3) History of sub-acute or Chronic Rheumatism	3	10	13
(4) History of Rheumatism and Chorea ..	1	3	4
	—	—	—
	26	44	70
	==	==	==

(j) **Tuberculosis.** All Tuberculosis contacts were examined each term in accordance with the practice of previous years.

(k) **Crippling Defects.** The following is a table of such defects :

	Number added in 1939	Total number on Register
Organic Heart Disease		
(Compensation not fully acquired)		
(a) Congenital	—	1
(b) Acquired	2	16
Tuberculosis of Bones and Joints ..	5	8
Tuberculosis of other parts	—	1
Deformities following Poliomyelitis ..	—	3
Defective Vision (High Myopia, etc.) ..	2 \	10
Defective Hearing	—	2
Congenital Deformities	3 \	5
Miscellaneous	1	2
	—	—
	13	48
	==	==

(d) **Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases** found at medical inspections to require treatment or supervision were as follows :—

Defective Vision, not including Squint	..	304
Squint	.. .. .	59
External Eye Disease	.. .. .	142

Blepharitis and Conjunctivitis constituted the greater part of the latter group.

(e) **Nose and Throat defects** found were as under :—

Chronic Tonsillitis	.. .. .	178
Adenoids enlarged	.. .. .	8
Tonsillitis and Adenoids	.. .. .	17
Other conditions of nose and throat	..	17

11 cases with enlarged and inflamed tonsils and 3 cases with enlarged tonsils and adenoids were recommended for surgical treatment out of the above total of 203.

(f) **Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.** The following defects of this type were found :—

Defective hearing	.. .. .	25
Otitis Media	.. .. .	33
Other ear diseases	.. .. .	12

(g) **Dental Defects.** 4,980 children were examined by the School Dentist in the course of routine and special inspections. 3,139 were found to require treatment.

(h) **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.** Defects of this type found at medical inspections numbered 33 of which 10 required treatment, and the rest observation.

(i) **Heart Disease and Rheumatism.** Supervision of every child with a history of rheumatism or chorea or who is found to have a heart lesion with or without such a history was carried out as in previous years.

5. Findings of Medical Inspections.

(a) **Nutrition** is assessed on clinical grounds and is classified as :—

- A. Excellent
- B. Normal
- C. Slightly Subnormal
- D. Bad

124 cases came in Category C (6.3%), 9 cases into Category D (0.6%). These figures do not differ materially from those of last year. No entrant child was found to be in Category D.

Table II at the end of this report omits figures for entrants, the group which was examined in the last quarter of the year, as it was held by the Board of Education that this quarter of 1939 would not be strictly comparable in some areas with that of previous years. In fact this did not apply in Burton upon Trent. The figures for Entrants are as follows :—

Number of Children Inspected	..	549	
State of Nutrition :—A.	..	86	— 15.6%
B.	..	449	— 81.7%
C.	..	14	— 2.7%
D.	..	0	— 0

(b) **Uncleanliness.** The number of children found unclean fell to 410, which is less than two-thirds of the number found in 1938. There were 445 exclusions from school on account of uncleanliness, chiefly of heads.

(c) **Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.** 1475 cases were referred to the Minor Ailments Clinic, to their own Doctor, or to Hospital as a result of routine and special inspections. 24 were cases of scabies and 153 of skin diseases other than scabies, chiefly impetigo. This represents a general reduction in the incidence of skin disease.

In addition, the School Nurses made 16,730 examinations during 12 visits to each school. These general inspections are made with the particular objects of detecting uncleanness, and contagious skin diseases, of giving hygienic advice to scholars and teachers, and of following up the results of treatment and advice given by them and the School Medical Officers.

The war caused some disorganisation of supplementary inspections and of the School Nurses' general inspections in the last quarter of the year, with a consequent decline in numbers, in addition to the anticipated decline which appears in the figures for routine inspections.

AVERAGE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT OF CHILDREN ROUTINE EXAMINED DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS.

Boys

Age	1938		1939	
	Height	Weight	Height	Weight
4 years	106.7	17.2	105.3	17.9
5	108.6	19.5	108.3	19.3
6	111.7	20.5	113.8	21.4
8	126.0	26.1	125.5	26.0
9	128.2	26.5	128.4	27.1
12	144.8	36.6	144.7	36.8
13	148.0	39.5	145.3	36.1

Girls

Age	1938		1939	
	Height	Weight	Height	Weight
4 years	103.3	17.3	102.5	17.5
5	107.3	18.4	108.0	18.6
6	114.3	21.1	111.5	20.1
8	124.8	24.9	126.2	25.5
9	127.9	26.4	127.6	26.1
12	147.4	38.9	147.0	39.1
13	147.9	40.4	149.7	40.9

3. **School Hygiene.** Several important modifications affecting use of school buildings occurred during 1939, and as a temporary measure during alterations several schools were housed in church rooms and similar buildings. School hygiene suffered a set back in each instance. There were, moreover, changes caused by the outbreak of hostilities which had a similar effect. Guild Street School was taken over by the Military Authorities, and Horninglow Infants', Winshill Girls' and Stapenhill Boys' Schools were given over entirely to First Aid Posts.

The following figures indicate the position during 1939, so far as number of children are concerned :

Average number on roll	..	6,660
Average attendance	.. ..	5,940

The figures do not differ significantly, in so far as they are an index of the children's health, from those of recent years.

4. **Medical Inspection.** Medical inspection consists of two divisions as before.

1. Routine inspection of

- (a) Entrants—consisting of children admitted to school during the year, or those children who for any reason have not previously been examined.
- (b) Intermediates—aged 9 years next birthday.
- (c) Leavers—aged 13 years next birthday.

2. Supplementary inspections of

defects found at routine inspections or specially referred by parents, school teachers, or school nurses. This type of inspection is repeated each term until the defect is remedied.

The number of routine inspections in statutory groups was as follows :—

Entrants	..	..	..	549
Intermediates	..	..	..	690
Leavers	..	..	..	701
				<hr/>
				1,940
				<hr/>

The number of supplementary inspections was 8,167.

Annual Report of the School Medical Officer

TO THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY,
BURTON UPON TRENT

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer for the year 1939.

The report is in the form of a commentary on the findings at the statutory medical inspections of school children and supplementary inspections and on the treatment provided by the School Medical Services.

It appears to be desirable that in view of the abnormal conditions arising out of the war and the urgent need for economy, the report should be as concise as possible. As a step in that direction the Board of Education have made reductions in the statistical tables which are given at the end of this report.

Scarlet Fever declined to a case incidence of almost one third that of 1938, while the Diphtheria case rate continued to fall to nearly half the 1938 figure. Whooping Cough and Measles, including German Measles, advanced, the former to some six times the 1938 figure and the latter some four times. The low Diphtheria rate does not justify any inactivity in pursuing a campaign for obtaining protection by immunisation against the disease, as there is no doubt that the present low rate for Diphtheria is temporary.

The general health and nutrition of the school population remains about the level of recent years.

1. **Staff.** Personnel remained unchanged during 1939, viz. :—

Dr. Thomas Ross, *Assistant School Medical Officer.*

Dr. E. Anne Perrott, *Assistant School Medical Officer.*

2. **Co-ordination.** No change has taken place in the administration of the School Medical Service during the year, and close co-operation with the Health, Infant Welfare, Tuberculosis, Mental Deficiency, and other services continues.

The assistance of the General Practitioners, the Factory Surgeon, the staffs of the Voluntary Institutions and Associations has been valuable, and I again express thanks for their co-operation.

Staff of the School Medical Service

School Medical Officer :

JAMES M. COWIE, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officers :

THOMAS ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

E. ANNE PERROTT, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Orthopaedic Surgeon :

J. H. MOIR, D.S.O., M.C., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Part Time).

School Oculist :

EDWIN R. JAGGER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.
(Part Time).

School Dentist :

Miss J. H. W. HEPBURN, L.D.S.

School Nurses :

Miss M. E. COLEMAN, State Registered Nurse and State Certified
Midwife.

Miss W. JAMES, State Registered Nurse and State Certified Midwife.

School Dental Nurse :

Miss M. MOORE, State Registered Nurse and State Certified Midwife.

Masseuse at Orthopaedic Clinic :

Miss M. J. W. ABBOTTS,
Cert. Ch. Soc. of Massage and Medical Gymnastics and M.E.
(Part Time).

Clerk :

Mrs. G. H. WATSON.

